



MEADGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mascalls Way • Great Baddow • Chelmsford • Essex CM2 7NS

Telephone: (01245) 259403

E-mail: admin@meadgate.essex.sch.uk • Website: www.meadgateprimary.com

Executive Headteacher: Mr. J. J. Figg

23rd September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 5 – Life in Saxon Britain Day – Wednesday 16th October

To complement our study of the Saxons, History Off the Page are visiting our school to provide a Life in Saxon Britain Day in the school on Wednesday 16th October.

History Off the Page is a company which provides immersive and practical History, Science and Literature workshops to schools. The workshop, which will take place in the school hall during normal school hours, will give us a feeling of what it was like to live during the year 878 AD in Britain.

On the day, your child will experience life as it would have been living in the year 878 AD at the time of the Battle of Edington, using authentic tools and materials whenever possible to learn skills as apprentices in a wide variety of workshops.

As the day progresses, the children will get involved in the issues of the time, with the chance to participate in a range of cross-curricular activities.

Looking like a Saxon will help in really feeling part of the experience so we are encouraging all of the children to wear a simple costume on the day. Please see attached for some ideas.

History Off the Page have previously delivered this experience in our school and it was very well received by the children, really bringing the period to life through the sounds, smells and traditions of the time.

There is an opportunity for grown-ups to be part of the day as we would appreciate a small number of volunteers, in costume too if possible, to support the children at the various stations. We can only have a limited number, so please let Miss Reynolds know if you would like to join us for the day.

Yours faithfully,

Ms K Meager

Head of School

Get ready to be a Saxon/Viking with History Off the Page!

Very soon History Off the Page will visit your school for a Life in Saxon/Viking Britain Day. To help you feel like a Saxon or a Viking in 878 AD, there are two things you can do to get ready:

1. Choose a Name

Please pick a name for yourself from the lists below:

Girls' Saxon names: Agatha, Agnes, Ailred, Beadohild, Cuthberg, Eadburg, Edith, Emma, Frythegith, Gytha, Hilda, Hildeberg, Hildegard, Inga, Leofrun, Mathilda, Mildrith, Nothgyth, Osthryth, Raenmaeld, Ricola, Rymenhild, Sachild, Siflaed, Wihtburg, Wulwaru, Wulfwyn, Ymma

Girls' Viking names: Abi, Asa, Aud, Astrid, Bjorg, Dalla, Dotta, Estrid, Freydis, Frida, Gerd, Grima, Gudrid, Gunnhild, Gyda, Halla, Hallgrim, Helga, Hildirid, Ingrid, Ingunn, Isgerd, Luta, Katla, Olof, Oak, Ragna, Signy, Sigrid, Thora, Thordis, Thorunn, Tofa, Tola, Una

Boys' Saxon names: Aefic, Aidan, Aldred, Aldwine, Alfred, Baldric, Baldwulf, Beocca, Cenwulf, Colinan, Cumbra, Cuthbert, Draca, Dunstan, Eadmund, Eadwig, Edgar, Edward, Edwin, Framric, Gadd, Garwulf, Godric, Godrum, Harold, Heathwulf, Ida, Ingild, Leofric, Osgood, Osric, Oswald, Raedmund, Raedwulf, Selred, Theobald, Tobias, Ulf, Wigmund, Wilfred, Winfred, Wulf

Boys' Viking names: Alf, Alrik, Aron, Bjorn, Bork, Dag, Eirik, Fargrim, Grim, Grimwald, Gunnar, Hadd, Halldor, Hamund, Harold, Ingolf, Ivar, Jon, Jorund, Karl, Knut, Leif, Lodin, Mar, Odd, Olaf, Orrin, Seigemund, Svan, Thorfast, Thorfinn, Thormod, Ulfgrim, Valgard, Wengo

2. Assemble a Costume

Looking like a Saxon or Viking will help you feel the part. Costumes do not have to be fancy – you can do a lot with clothes you already have! Here are some ideas:

Tunic or dress: This can be a simple dress for girls or a large T-shirt for boys and girls. Boys can tie a cord around their waist as a belt.

Cloak: A large piece of fabric fastened on the right shoulder with a brooch can be used for boys or girls.

Trousers (boys): They can be tucked into long socks or fastened with string or braid crossed around the lower legs.

Headscarf (girls): A bit of fabric to cover the head.



Please do not come dressed as a specific person. Please do not bring weapons, shields or helmets.